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# British discipline five on spy's list

LONDON (AP) — Five workers at Britain's top secret intelligence center who were earmarked as potential blackmail targets by a Soviet spy have been disciplined and demoted, British newspapers reported yesterday.

The five were co-workers of convicted spy Geoffrey Prime, once a Russian-language translator at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham, 90 miles northwest of London, according to reports in the London Times, the Daily Telegraph and the Guardian.

Agents of MI5, Britain's counter-intelligence service, reportedly have been looking for additional Soviet spies at the electronic intelligence gathering center since Prime's arrest last year.

Officials are said to be convinced Prime left at least one such "mole" in place before he quit his job at the center in 1977.

While working at Cheltenham, Prime acted as a "talent spotter" for the Soviets and drew up detailed lists of potential blackmail targets among his fellow workers, the press reports said.

They said a "considerable number" of Prime's files had been recovered, containing "hundreds

of personal facts about his colleagues."

Those named, the newspapers said, have been interviewed by officers from MI5 and the intelligence center's own security division.

Five of those interrogated reportedly were disciplined and demoted "because they were not entirely frank when questioned."

The reports said the interviews were carried out to see if those named by Prime "had been put under any pressure by the Russians."

The five demoted workers had "tried to cover up certain personal details which they did not know their interrogators were aware of as a result of Prime's information."

There was no immediate official comment on the reports, which did not say what the demoted employees' jobs were.

Prime was sentenced to 35 years' imprisonment last Nov. 10 after being convicted of spying for the Soviets in what was called the most damaging penetration of Western intelligence since World War II.

Prime, 44, admitted he had spied for Moscow for 14 years, the last two at the Cheltenham headquarters.